



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Wells, et al. Docket No: 39750-0002DV1
Serial No: 09/981,547 Group Art Unit: 1639
Filed: October 17, 2001 Examiner: Epperson, Jon D

For: **METHODS FOR RAPIDLY IDENTIFYING SMALL ORGANIC MOLECULE LIGANDS FOR BINDING TO BIOLOGICAL TARGET MOLECULES**

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

MS: No-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The present Amendment and Response is filed concurrently with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and addresses the Office Action mailed on July 10, 2003 in connection with the above-identified patent application (Paper No. 13).

Please enter the following amendments, and consider the following remarks.

In the Claims

1.-57. (Previously canceled)

58. (Currently amended) A method of identifying a ligand non-oligomeric organic compound less than 2000 daltons in size, that binds covalently to a chemically reactive group at a site of interest on a target protein to form a target protein-ligand conjugate, comprising detecting the formation of said target protein-ligand conjugate by mass spectrometry analysis has the greatest relative affinity for a target protein comprising:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.10(a))

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" - Rule 10: I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on October 9, 2003 with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" under 37 CFR 1.10 as Express Mail No. EV346725596US addressed to: Mail Stop: No-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: October 9, 2003

Cheryl Ann Rogers